Reply of Government.—The member is under a misapprehension. By Government Order No. 5276-84—Mis. 153-03-3, dated the 16th December 1904, nirgantis are bound to attend to the proper distribution of water and prevent its waste. The matter will be further considered in connection with the organization of Village Panchayets.

SUBJECT No. 64.

Restoration and repair of minor tanks.

(i) Messrs. Suryanaranappa, Sonne Gowda and Byre Gowda, Kolar Taluk.

(iii) Messrs. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, B.A., LL.B., and H. Ramappa, Shimoga Municipality; and Shama Rao, Sagar Taluk.

(v) Mr. Rama Rao, Malur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(i) The question of restoring the minor tanks is a very important one and early orders are solicited as there are more minor than major tanks.

(ii) The repairs and restoration of minor tanks engaged the attention of Government in former days, whereas now big projects like Marikanave, Boranakanave and Mavathur are undertaken at great cost. The utility of such tanks to the people is general is very little and the income to the Government much less. The restoration of minor tanks at a fourth of the cost would afford water convenience and facilities for cultivation.

(iii) As it is not always possible to secure the cooperation of the raiyats for repairing minor tanks, the Revenue authorities might repair the same and levy the cost of the raiyats' quota as a revenue demand.

(iv) The cost of earthwork required to be done by the raiyats to minor tanks may, it is suggested, be advanced by Government, and recovered in four years along with the kandayam. This measure will be profitable both to the Government and the raiyats.

(v) In calculating the amount of contribution to be paid for the restoration of minor tanks it is requested that the assessment on both occupied and unoccupied assessed lands may be taken into consideration.

Reply of Government.—Liberal provision is made for the repairs of minor tanks every year and Government are considering in connection with the organization of Village Panchayets, how best to entrust to the people themselves the maintenance of these tanks and thus remove all cause for complaints.

For purposes of calculating the contribution to be paid towards the restoration of tanks, it is not possible to include the unoccupied lands as it is not certain when they will be taken up and the charge upon them cannot be kept on indefinitely. These lands are generally put up to auction and are thus made to contribute indirectly.

SUBJECT No. 65.

Abolition of voluntary contribution.

Mr. A. Narasimhaiya, Malvalli Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Contributions recoverable from raiyats for works carried out by the Public Works Department are of two kinds, voluntary and compulsory. It is prayed that contributions be made compulsory in the case of all tanks the restoration of which is deemed